I have already mentioend, if you look at the exports with general currency areas, this year they have shown a modest increase. In April-May season general currency areas have shown an increase though it is not as much as the figure of 12 per cent to 13 per cent which we would like in the course of the year. With regard to the issue of allowing non-residents to keep money abroad when they come for residence here, I think, we have taken this step after careful deliberations to create confidence among non-residents. As of now, I feel there is no cause for alarm and, at the same time, I would like to assure the House that we have adequate contigency plans to see that the balance of payments situation in the current year is adequately taken care of.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question No. 283, Dr. Jinendra Kumar Jain.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Madam, the Commerce Minister is sitting here. (Interruptions .....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. I have moved head. (Interruptions)6 I have moved ahead, please. (Interruptions).. .. I h ave moved ahead. There are certain procedures.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: can he give wrong statistics? (Interruptions) ..

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, you can put another question, please. (Interruptions).

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: It is minus compared to last year and he is reading again from the World Bank reports.

(Interruptions)..

SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH: Madam, I would like...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, not now, please.. (Interruptions).. Not now, please. This is another question on NTPC.

राष्ट्रीय ताप विद्युत निगम द्वारा राज्य बिजली बोर्डों को बिजली न दिए जाने की चेतावनी

*283. **डा० जिनेन्द्र कुमार जैन :†**
श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग :

क्या विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राष्ट्रीय ताप विद्युत निगम ने राज्य बिजली बोर्डों को यह चेतावनी दी है कि भविष्य में उन्हें बिजली नहीं दी जायेगी ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह चेतावनी किस-किस राज्य बिजली बोर्ड को दी गई हैं; और

(ग) चेतावनी दिए जाने के मुख्य कारण क्या हैं?

विद्युत मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कल्पनाथ राय) : (क) से (ग) विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है।

विवरण

(क) से (ग) राज्य बिजली बोर्डों द्वारा बकाया राशियों का भुगतान न किए जाने और बकाया राशियों की अत्यधिक मात्रा को ध्यान में रखते हुए नेशनल थर्मल पावर कारपोरेशन द्वारा मुख्य बाकीदार राज्य बिजली बोर्डों और संबंधित राज्य सरकारों यथा उत्तर प्रदेश राजस्थान, हरियाणा, मध्य प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, गुजरात, तामिलनाडु, केरल, बिहार और पश्चिम बंगाल को लिख गया है जिसमें स्पष्ट कर दिया गया है कि बकाया राशियों का भुगतान न किए जाने की अवस्था में निगम द्वारा विद्युत उत्पादन और विद्युत सप्लाई को जारी रख पाना संभव नहीं होगा।

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN: Madam, in reply to my question the hon. Minister has admitted that the NTPC had indeed warned the State Electricity Boards that it would not be able to maintain electricity gene-

† सभा में यह प्रश्न डा० जिनेन्द्र कुमार जैन द्वारा पूछा गया।

ration until the State Boards clear the past arrears. On the list of defaulting States, out of the first four States, three States happen to be the BJP-ruled States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. It is a matter of public knowledge that, after all, these arrears have not accumulated over the last two years alone. The arrears are as a result of maladministration or whatever it be, over a number of years and decades. My fear is that if the Central Government decides to assert this warning, these States, especially my State of Madhya Pradesh, will be very adversely hit these days.

श्री अजीत जोगी : मध्य प्रदेश आपका कब से हो गया?

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN: Madam, please educate the hon. Member.

श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग : जब से आप अपने आप को मध्य प्रदेश का कहने लगेहो।

उपसभापति : अभी सवाल हो जाने दीजिए।

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN: Madam, I wsh to know from the hon. Minister whether the Central Government is working out some some plans for helping the State Electricity Boards so that in a phased manner they can make the payment of arrears and the electricity generation is not hampered or stopped to avoid sufferings to the people living in these States.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Madam Deputy Chairman, arrears of Rs. 1,535 crores are pending with different States U.P. Rs. 220 crores, Bihar Rs. 800 crores, Madhya Pradesh Rs. 203 crores, Rajasthan Rs. 115 crores, Maharashtra Rs. 57 crores, Gujarat Rs. 62 crores, Punjab Rs. 56 crores, Kerala Rs. 38 crores. Tamil Nadu Rs. 52 crores and Karnataka Rs. 27 crores. NTPC is a very efficient national thermal power organisation and they are generating power. But the Coal Department has put a condition that unless and until they pay the money they cannot get coal. Therefore, the NTPC will have to first pay the entire money of the coal and then they supply the coal to the NTPC and then the thermal power stations generate power. That power goes to the different States according to their requirements. Now, Rs. 1,535 crores are pending. No projects are likely to come up in different States. The World Bank is giving assistance to all the national thermal power projects. The World Bank says, if you are nisuch arrears we cannot give you loan for the other projects in the country". In that condition if the arrears are not paid then the National Thermal Power Corporation, the best corporation of India will also become sick and will not be in a position to supply power to the States. For that, letters have been written, fax messages have gone and a Power Ministers' Conference was held. There it was decided that they will pay money. A Committee was also appointed to see how to take the arrears back. It was decided that all the States will open an LC and will pay the arrears. But these States have not paid the arrears. Therefore, we are not in a position to generate power. We are not in a position to generate power because we cannot get coal without paying money to the Coal Department. So we shall not be in a position to supply power There is no question of BJP-ruled State or non BJP ruled State. The Question is of the people of the country as a whole. Our duty is to provide power and the State Governments' duty is to pay the arrears so that we shall be in a position to do the needful.

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN: Madam, instead of answering my

question, instead of providing a plan by which the State Governments can clear the arrears in a phased manner and ultimately...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has said that he called a meeting of the Minister for power and Electricity and had a Committee also. I think you did not hear.

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN: In fact, the Government of Madhya Pradesh in the last two years has paid a lot of arrears. The Minister agreed to it when I met him in this connection some time ago. Now I put my second supplementary. I don't want to be partisan; I want to be constructive in giving suggestions and asking questions of the Minister. I again come to the specific problems of Madhya Pradesh in electricity generation. Madam, because of drought, water levels in some of the lakes went down effecting the hydel generation. And because the Coal Department is demanding cash money for supplying coal—the State has its own coal mines—power generation in the State has suffered because of this "cash and carry business". There is one more right that the State Government has, that is, gas-based electricity generation. The State has been asking for a fair share because a substantial length of the HBJ pipeline travels through the State. So far the Government has not agreed to that. Madam, through you, I wish to place another constructive proposal for the consideration of the hon. Minister. If you think that the gas-based electricity plant must be located... (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question here is of arrears, not of the entire power generation policy. So please confine yourself to the arrears and what can be done about it. We have to have more questions. Minister are here. There are many other questions

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN: Madam, relating to the arrears is the question of "pay cash and take electricity." My suggestion is that...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question.

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN: Okay, question. My question is; is the Minister going to consider a plan in which, though a gas-based power generation plant is located outside the State of Madhya Pradesh, a certain quota will be fixed for the Madhya Pradesh Government...

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : प्रधान मंत्री जी बदल गये हैं क्या ?

उपसभापति : क्यों ?

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : प्रधान मंत्री जी के कुर्सी पर पायलेट साहब लगातार 11 बजे से बैठे हैं।

उपसभापति : कभी कभी (**व्यवधान**)

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : कहीं प्रधान मंत्री बदल तो नहीं गये (**व्यवधान**)

उपसभापति : मालवीय जी, कभी-कभी मेरी जगह पर भी लोग बैठ जाते हैं तो क्या डिप्टी चेयरमैन भी उस वक्त बदल जाते हैं (**व्यवधान**) आप जवाब दीजिए, उनका सवाल हो गया है।

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN: Madam, I request you to kindly ask the hon. Minister... (*Interruptions*)..

उपसभापति : अभी क्या सवाल था ? (**व्यवधान**)

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN: मैडम, सवाल यह है,

This accumulation of arrears is not a problem of two years. Now I am trying to know from the Minister as to how cooperation could be established between him and the State Government so that people do not suffer. What is his plan?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think he has answered. I think it has been answered.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Madam Deputy Chairperson, for the hydel project in Madhya Pradesh and for gas based corporation in Madhya Pradesh I need a separate notice. Thirdly, he asked about how relations can be maintained. He will be happy to know that the NTPC Chairman met the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh and the Madhya Pradesh Government has decided to open an LC of Rs. 45 crores. Mr. Patwa has also promised that arrears would be paid and we have promised to continue the supply of power to Madhya Pradesh.

He has promised to pay the money.

श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग उपसभापति महोदया, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि यह बकाया कब से पड़ा है और हर स्टेट का ईयरवाइस ब्रेक-अप क्या है? मेरा दूसरा स्पेसेफिक प्रश्न यह है कि क्या उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने अपना एक पावर प्लांट सरेंडर करके कर्ज के बदले में दिया है? इन दो प्रश्नों का मंत्री जी जवाब दें।

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Madam Deputy Chairperson, The UP Govtrnment wanted to sell one power station to Shri Dalmia. There were arrears of Rs. 957 crores at that time. The UP Chief Minister met us and we advised him, instead of selling the power station to a private sector man, to hand it over to the NTPC. The NTPC would run the power station and also provide him with power. He handed over the power station to the NTPC and we are supplying 268 MW to UP. Thus the problem between the NTPC and the UP Government has been sorted out.

एक माननीय सदस्य : हो गया (व्यवधान)

श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग: हो गया। (व्यवधान) कैसे हो गया ?

श्री विठ्ठल भाई मोतीराम पटेल : उपसभापति महोदया, मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि दिल्ली इलेक्ट्रिक सप्लाई अंडरटेकिंग का 200-250 करोड़ रुपए का कर्ज आपने माफ कर दिया है या भारत सरकार ने दिया है। अगर आप दिल्ली का पैसा माफ कर सकते हैं तो दूसरी स्टेट्स का भी कुछ माफ कर दो आप यह भेदभाव क्यों रखते हैं?

उपसभापति : भेदभाव रखा है।

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Delhi is the capital city of India and the lowest power tariff is applicable here. If power is not supplied, if I discontinue the power supply to Delhi, then you will be in a very bad situation. Therefore, keeping in view the position of Delhi, the money was written off by the Rajiv Gandhi Government. I have requested the Home Minister that the power tariff in Delhi should be equal to that in UP and Bihar. The affluent people in Delhi pay the lowest tariff. Therefore, cost based and efficiency based power tariff should be applicable to all the people in Delhi so that we can improve the situation in Delhi.

श्री विठ्ठलभाई मोतीराम पटेल : दिल्ली का कर्जा कैसे माफ किया आपने ?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question No. 284.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam, you have allowed only one supplementary.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If the Minister answers well, you want more supplementaries. If he does not answer well, you want more supplementaries More questions should be asked.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Which category does he fit into? ?